

**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT**

School Education – RVM(SSA) – The AP Right of Children for Free and Compulsory Education Rules 2010 - Ensuring equity in education to all children – Setting up of State level Equity Working Groups – Orders – Issued.

SCHOOL EDUCATION (PE-SSA) DEPARTMENT

G.O. Rt. No. 461

Dated:22.08.2012
Read the following:

1. Gazette of Government of India, Ministry of Law & Justice, New Delhi, Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 dt. 26.8.2009
2. G.O.Ms.No.20, School Education (PE-Progs.I) Dept, dated 03.03.2011
3. G.O.Ms.No.130, School Education (PE-Prog.I) Dept, dated 09.09.2011
4. Framework for Implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, based on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009, issued by the Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Government of India, March 2011.

ORDER:-

The Government of India enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (Act No 35 of 2009), vide reference 1st read above, to provide free and compulsory education to all children in the age group of six to fourteen years. In consonance to the provision, the Government of Andhra Pradesh have issued the AP Right of Children for Free and Compulsory Education Rules 2010 vide ref 2nd and 3rd read above. The section 8(c) and 9(c) of RTE Act envisages that child belonging to the weaker sections and the child belonging to disadvantaged groups are not to be discriminated and prevented from pursuing and completing elementary education on any grounds. According to Rule 5(8) and Rule 6(4) of AP Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules 2010, the right of every child to education should be based on equality of opportunity and without discrimination on any grounds.

2. Children belonging to certain categories such as SC, ST, Minorities, Urban Deprived Children, and other vulnerable groups such as orphans, children living with HIV/AIDS, children living on the street, etc., have been traditionally excluded from equitable participation in quality education and require special focus to ensure their right to education. Girls and Children with Special Needs (disabled children) across these groups are doubly discriminated against and need special interventions.

3. The National Policy of Education, 1986 and its Programme of Action, 1992, lays out the principle of equity in education when it states that “up to given level, all students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have success to education of comparable quality”. The policy is explicit in its demand for the removal of disparities and equalising educational opportunities by attending to specific needs of those who have been denied equality so far and lists the categories of those who have been denied equal opportunity – women, SC, ST, Educationally backward sections and areas, Minorities and the Disabled – and spells out initiatives required to ensure they have equal access to and participation in education of satisfactory quality. It explicitly states that in our national perception, education is essentially for all... Education has an acculturating role. It refines sensitivities and perceptions that contribute to national cohesion, a scientific temper and independence of mind and spirit – thus furthering the role of socialism and democracy enshrined in our Constitution.” In 2011, the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, New Delhi, released the document – Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan: Framework for Implementation based on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, based on the National Policy of Education, 1986, RTE Act 2009 and the Report on Implementation of RTE and Revamp of SSA.

(P.T.O.)

4. The Government of Andhra Pradesh, after considering the above, with a view to better understand the different aspects of exclusion in education and to develop strategies to ensure equity in school education, hereby sets up the State Level Equity Working Group (EWG) with immediate effect, with various officials and educationalists and reputed NGOs as follows:

Composition of State Level Equity Working Groups:

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| 1. The Principal Secretary / Special Chief Secretary to the Government (PE&SSA), Department of School Education, AP., Secretariat | – Chairperson |
| 2. The State Project Director, RVM (SSA), AP., Hyderabad | – Convener |

RVM (SSA) officials:

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| 3. State Planning Coordinator | - Member |
| 4. State Chief Monitoring Officer | - Member |
| 5. State Girl Child Development Officer | - Member |
| 6. State Academic Monitoring Officer | - Member |
| 7. State Tribal Coordinator | - Member |
| 8. State Inclusive Education Coordinator | - Member |
| 9. State Minorities Coordinator | - Member |

RTE Cell, AP Secretariat:

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| 10. State Coordinator | - Member |
| 11. Smt. Rekha Abel, Asst State Coordinator | - Coordinator |

KGBV Society, AP., Hyderabad:

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| 12. The Secretary or any designated Member | - Member |
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SCERT, AP., Hyderabad:

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| 13. Dr N Upender Reddy, Dept of Curriculum and Textbooks | - Member |
| 14. Dr Anuradha Reddy, Dept. of Girl Child and Focus Group Education | - Member |

AP Mahila Samatha Society/Samata Gender Resource Centre:

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| 15. Smt Prashanti, State Programme Director | - Member |
| 16. Smt Padma, Coordinator, Samata Gender Resource Centre | - Member |

Civil Society Representatives:

19. Smt Kameshwari Jandhyala, Gender and Education Consultant, Education Resource Unit, Hyderabad
20. Smt Annie Namala, Member National Advisory Committee on RTE, New Delhi
21. Dr Fatima Ali Khan, Apna Watan, Hyderabad
22. Dr Yamini Atmavilas, Associate Professor and Chair, Gender Studies, Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI) Centre for Human Development, Hyderabad
23. Smt Hilda Grace Coelho, CRSD, Anantapur
24. Sr Lissy, National Domestic Workers Forum, Hyderabad
25. Smt P A Devi, Gender Consultant, Hyderabad
26. Smt Satyavati, Bhumika Society, Hyderabad
27. Smt P Bhanumati, Dhaatri Resource Center, Hyderabad
28. Fr Thomas Pallithanam, PARA, Ravulapalem, E Godavari
29. Sri Leslie Martin, Dalit Bahujan Shraamik Union, Hyderabad
30. Sri Ramesh Reddy, Mahita, Hyderabad
31. Sri Ravi Rasaprolu, National Dalit Forum, Hyderabad
32. Sri Isidore Phillips, Divya Disha, Hyderabad

(Contd...)

33. Sri P Anjaiah, Save the Children, Hyderabad
34. Sri Mohammed Azam Khan, Member of the Working Group on Minorities for the XIIth 5 Year Plan, 4-1-962, F D Khan & Sons, Abids Road, Hyderabad
35. Sri Bharat Bhushan, CARPED, Hyderabad
36. Sri Venkat Reddy, M. V. Foundation, Hyderabad

5. Roles and Functions of the State Level Equity Working Group:

The EWG will meet once a quarter – every 4 months – to monitor, review and coordinate the following activities:

1. To review and provide inputs to the planning processes within RVM (SSA), focussing on equity issues.
2. To develop monitoring tools that can be used by the different sectors within RVM (SSA) to ensure that all children have participating equitably in education.
3. To plan for and conduct periodic assessments of different SSA programmes using specific parameters of equity in education.
4. To plan for and conduct trainings at different levels on gender and social equity.
5. To design and support in the implementation of innovative projects that will focus on children belonging to the special focus groups.
6. To submit annual Equity Reports to RVM (SSA).
7. To document and disseminate success stories from the field.

6. The funds required for the effective functioning of the Equity Working Group shall be met from Rajiv Vidya Mission (SSA), i.e., for purposes of the group meetings, studies and trainings that the EWG plans to undertake.

7. The State Project Director, RVM (SSA) shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**CHANDANA KHAN
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (PE) (FAC)**

To

The Special Chief Secretary to Government(PE&SSA), Department of School Education, AP Secretariat, Hyderabad.

The State Project Director, RVM(SSA), AP Hyderabad.

The RTE Cell, AP Secretariat, Hyderabad.

All the Members of the Equity Working Group through the RTE Cell, AP Secretariat, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of School Education & Literacy, Government of India, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.

P.S. to M(PE&SSA)

SF/SC

// FORWARDED BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER.